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**Notes ID:** 58B455CDEC4A02AB85257869005580ED

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**Delivered Date:** 07/30/2009 11:10 PM EDT

**Subject:** The Bay Buzz - News from The Coalition for Buzzards Bay

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July 2009

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Coalition Builds Green for New Bedford

and the Bay

New Buzzards Bay Center to Boost Bay Awareness

Can you imagine a center for Buzzards Bay that focuses on expanding regional awareness of Bay issues through environmental education and advanced efforts in Bay advocacy, watershed science and conservation? That vision will soon become reality when The Coalition for Buzzards Bay moves to its new location next summer on Front Street in New Bedford's Waterfront Historic District and National Park.

On July 25, the Coalition celebrated the start of a precedent-setting "green" rehabilitation of the historic Coggeshall Counting House into The Buzzards Bay Center. The capping moment occurred when a striking green banner was unveiled, which graces the east side of the building with the message "Building green for New Bedford and the Bay." [Read more here...](#)

Don't Be Left Out! A Simple Way to Save the Bay

The Coalition's commitment to growth has been given a wonderful, but daunting challenge.

To help us grow our programs in education, advocacy, research and conservation, a donor has challenged us to increase our membership by 3,000 new members by the end of next year. If we succeed, we receive \$500,000 towards the expansion of our programs to save Buzzards Bay.

For only \$10, you can help us meet our challenge. Join today, or if you already are a member, tell your friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors to join. It's simple, just click [::here::](#)

16th Annual Swim Buzzards Bay Proves It Takes All Kinds

You often hear the Coalition say "it takes all kinds" to make the annual Swim Buzzards Bay a success, and this year it truly did. A record-breaking 118 swimmers took the plunge on Saturday, July 11. Among them were people from as far west as Seattle and as far south as Mexico, the youngest being 14 and the oldest 76. And almost half swam in the event for their first time, including Fairhaven resident Doug Medeiros, who completed the 1.2 miles from Davy's Locker to Fort Phoenix despite having lost his leg to cancer nine years ago.

"I'm glad I did it," said Medeiros. "My brother-in-law was my kayak buddy and he helped me swim in a straight line by paddling next to me. I have to say, it was easier than I expected. I would definitely do it again." [Read more here...](#)

Don't miss next year's Swim Buzzards Bay on Saturday, July 31! Click [::here::](#) to learn more.

And don't forget to check out our 16th Annual Swim Buzzards Bay Photo Gallery! Find even more photos on our Facebook page.

#### Baywatchers' 18th Season Kicks Off with New Partnership

The Coalition for Buzzards Bay's 18th consecutive season of water quality monitoring in the Bay's 30 major harbors and coves kicked off the morning of May 29 when 121 volunteers headed out to their assigned sampling locations.

Volunteers participating in the Coalition's Water Quality Monitoring Program called Baywatchers, help track trends in the Bay's health by testing the water once a week between 6 and 9 a.m. from May through September for dissolved oxygen, salinity, temperature, and water clarity. These "citizen scientists" also record any general observations, such as green algae on the beach or dead fish, assisting the Coalition in keeping an "eye on the Bay."

Four times during the sampling season Baywatchers also collect water samples for more detailed analyses to determine the presence of nutrients. Nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, are important indicators of the Bay's health.

This summer is a little different because it marks a new chapter in The Baywatchers Program through a partnership with The Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole. [Read more here...](#)

#### Coalition Helps Expand Protected Land in Fairhaven

Last week, the Coalition for Buzzards Bay assisted the Town of Fairhaven in the acquisition of eight acres of undeveloped forested land along New Boston Road. The Coalition, which had previously secured an option to purchase the property, finalized the transaction with grant funding provided by Fairhaven's Community Preservation Committee. The land will be owned and managed by the Town of Fairhaven Conservation Commission.

"While this is a relatively small piece of land, it still affords critical protection to the Bay's watershed resources. Its location is such that it provides an important connection to other existing conservation lands," said Brendan Annett, Coalition vice president of watershed protection. [Read more here...](#)

#### Draft Plan Seeks to Protect Critical Resources in Buzzards Bay Coalition Reviews Ocean Plan in Preparation for Public Hearings

The Coalition is currently reviewing the two-volume draft ocean management plan released earlier this month by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. The plan is the first of its kind in the nation and is open for public review and comment.

Required by the Massachusetts Oceans Act passed in 2008, the ocean management

plan seeks to strike a balance between protecting unique environmental resources and allowing a diverse range of other uses throughout state waters, which comprise waters within three miles of the MA coastline, including Buzzards Bay. This plan begins to define what activities can take place and where, and attempts to avoid the ad hoc review of potential developments that has occurred in the past. Read more here...

Ride for the Bay  
Third Annual Watershed Ride  
Sunday, October 4

The summer heat and humidity are finally upon us, and there's no better time to start thinking about the cooler days of fall. If you haven't already discovered - the best way to enjoy the spectacular colors of the season is simply from the seat of a bicycle.

Our Third Annual Watershed Ride is coming up on Sunday, October 4 and it's one of the best cycling events around. Join us for this 75-mile ride along the winding roads of the Buzzards Bay watershed. The course leads cyclists through scenic coastal villages, farmland, cranberry bogs, and along the beautiful back roads of Cape Cod.

Learn more and register online today at: [www.savebuzzardsbay.org/watershedride](http://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/watershedride). By riding, you will help us create awareness of the connection between the land and the Bay, as well as help raise much-needed funds to protect and restore Buzzards Bay and its watershed.

CBB in the News

Much of the Coalition's work puts us at the forefront of the region's top environmental issues. Here are a few recent stories that mention our effort:

- Watershed protection is aim of Mattapoisett land deal
- Preservation works
- Coalition and Town of Mattapoisett collaborate
- Partnership preserves former Acushnet Sawmill Site
- Crowell's to show Vliet's 'Water Views'
- Views of the Sea - New Crowell's Fine Art exhibition
- Lincoln Park developers seek continuance
- Swim Buzzards Bay breaks participation record
- Swim Buzzards Bay makes record-breaking splash

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